

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Patent Application of)
Xavier MICHEL)
Application No.: To Be Assigned) Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned
Filed: August 22, 2001) Examiner: To Be Assigned
For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS,)
IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, AND)
STORAGE MEDIUM)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING FILING

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 32, consisting of Figs. 32A to 32B, is a diagram illustrating the right and left diagonal energy calculated in steps 182 and S183 in Fig. 30;